

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-17 were originally filed and remain pending. Claims 1-5 and 7 are amended by this Amendment. Reexamination and reconsideration of the subject application as Amended are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement; claims 1-17 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chenoweth (US Patent No. 6,076,681) in view of Hashimoto (US Patent No. 6,297,964); and rejected claims 1-17 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda (US Patent No. 4,702,370) in view of Hashimoto (US Patent No. 6,297,964). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claims 1 and 5 have been amended making the rejection of claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, moot.

The rejection of claims 1-17 under under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chenoweth in view of Hashimoto is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 1 is allowable over the cited reference in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example “a plurality of punching holes formed by cutting a part of the tape carrier package part and a part of the peripheral part for reducing a connection between the tape carrier package part and the peripheral part”. Claim 5 is allowable over the cited reference in that claim 5 recites a combination of elements including, for example “wherein a plurality of punching holes are formed along a border of the tape carrier package part and the peripheral part, the punching holes assisting separation of the tape carrier package part from the peripheral part”. None of the cited references including Chenoweth or Hashimoto, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least these features of the claimed invention. Specifically, neither

Chenoweth or Hashimoto teach or suggest, singly or in combination, a plurality of punching holes formed by cutting a part of the tape carrier package part and a part of the peripheral part.

The rejection of claims 1-17 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda in view of Hashimoto is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 1 is allowable over the cited reference in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example “a plurality of punching holes formed by cutting a part of the tape carrier package part and a part of the peripheral part for reducing a connection between the tape carrier package part and the peripheral part”. Claim 5 is allowable over the cited reference in that claim 5 recites a combination of elements including, for example “wherein a plurality of punching holes are formed along a border of the tape carrier package part and the peripheral part, the punching holes assisting separation of the tape carrier package part from the peripheral part”. None of the cited references including Honda or Hashimoto, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least these features of the claimed invention. Specifically, neither Honda or Hashimoto teach or suggest, singly or in combination, a plurality of punching holes formed by cutting a part of the tape carrier package part and a part of the peripheral part.

Therefore, for the reasons above claims 1 and 5 are allowable over Chenoweth, Honda, and Hashimoto. In addition, claim 2-4, and 6-17, which depend from claim 1 and 5 respectively, are also allowable over the cited art.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: December 10, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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